

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 22 OCTOBER 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Financial and Social Worker support sought by Age Pensioners from 2011-2015.

Question reference number: HS 90

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 December 2015

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) Please provide details of the numbers of recipients of Age Pension who have sought additional financial or social worker support from DHS.
- b) How does this compare with the previous 4 years?

Answer:

- a) Additional financial support sought by Age Pensioners 2015-16 Financial Year (up to 30 October 2015)

Financial Assistance Type	Payments made	Payments rejected	Claims assessed
Advance Payment	90,879	2,000	92,879
Crisis Payment	191	22	213

Age Pension recipients referred to Social Work 2015-16 Financial Year (up to 30 October 2015)

Financial Year	Number of Referrals to Social Workers
2015-16 (up to 30 October 2015)	2,159

- b) Age Pension recipients issued an Advance Payment over previous Financial Years

Financial Year	Number of Advance Payments granted	Number of Advance Payments rejected	Number of Advance Payment claims assessed
2014-15	271,045	6,042	277,087
2013-14	263,968	8,312	272,280
2012-13	261,002	11,799	272,801
2011-12	239,272	15,598	254,870

Age Pension recipients issued a Crisis Payment over previous Financial Years

Financial Year	Number of Crisis Payments granted	Number of Crisis Payments rejected	Number of Crisis Payment claims assessed
2014-15	701	56	757
2013-14	741	51	792
2012-13	516	55	571
2011-12	533	49	582

Age Pension recipients referred to Social Work over previous Financial Years

Financial Year	Number Referrals to Social Workers
2014-15	6,047
2013-14	6,026
2012-13	6,873
2011-12	6,767